TRILLIUM WOODS
PROVINCIAL PARK
MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Ministry of Natural Resources

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister

Mary Mogford
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Invitation for Public Participation

I am pleased to provide to you this copy of the draft management plan for Trillium Woods Provincial Park. This draft plan reflects this Ministry's intent to protect the natural features found within the park.

Trillium Woods Provincial Park is a nature reserve class park and no development is proposed since emphasis is upon stewardship of a deciduous upland forest within the agricultural setting of Southwestern Ontario.

If you have any questions or comments on the future of this provincial park, please contact our office in Aylmer. We will consider your comments when we prepare the final management plan for Trillium Woods Provincial Park.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Trillium Woods Provincial Park is a ten hectare nature reserve class park located on the Jakeman Side Road of South-West Oxford Township approximately four kilometers west of the Village of Sweaburg (Figure 1).

In 1964, the Woodstock Field Naturalists recommended the purchase of Trillium Woods to the provincial government. In 1967 the property was purchased and in 1970 was put into regulation as a Provincial Park (Figure 1).

The main value of Trillium Woods is that its vegetation is representative of the mesic upland deciduous forest. This vegetation type is the most common one found in southern Ontario and usually contains white trilliums. This park supports the common white trillium and five aberrant forms or colour variations.

2.0 PARK POLICIES

2.1 Classification

Trillium Woods Provincial Park is classified as a nature reserve class park. The nature reserve classification describes an area selected to represent the distinctive natural habitats and landforms of the province, and is protected for educational purposes and as a gene pool for research to benefit present and future generations.

Trillium Woods represents vegetation that is typical of the most common type of vegetation, mesic upland deciduous forest, which occurs in southern Ontario.

2.2 Goal

The goal of Trillium Woods is to protect a representative natural habitat of the southern Ontario deciduous forest which includes an abundance of aberrant white trilliums, Trillium grandiflorum (Michx.) Salisb.

2.3 Objectives

The park contributes to the targets set out in the Aylmer District Land use Guidelines and the Ontario provincial parks system by protecting important life science features and providing opportunities for heritage appreciation.

2.3.1 Protection

NATURE RESERVE PARKS ARE CREATED TO PROTECT A SYSTEM OF PROVINCIALLY SIGNIFICANT SPECIAL AND REPRESENTATIVE EARTH AND LIFE SCIENCE FEATURES.

Trillium Woods Provincial Park supports a variety of tree and herb species which are common in mesic, middle-aged deciduous forests of the Deciduous Forest Region.

In addition, the aberrant form of the white trillium occurs in large numbers each spring.

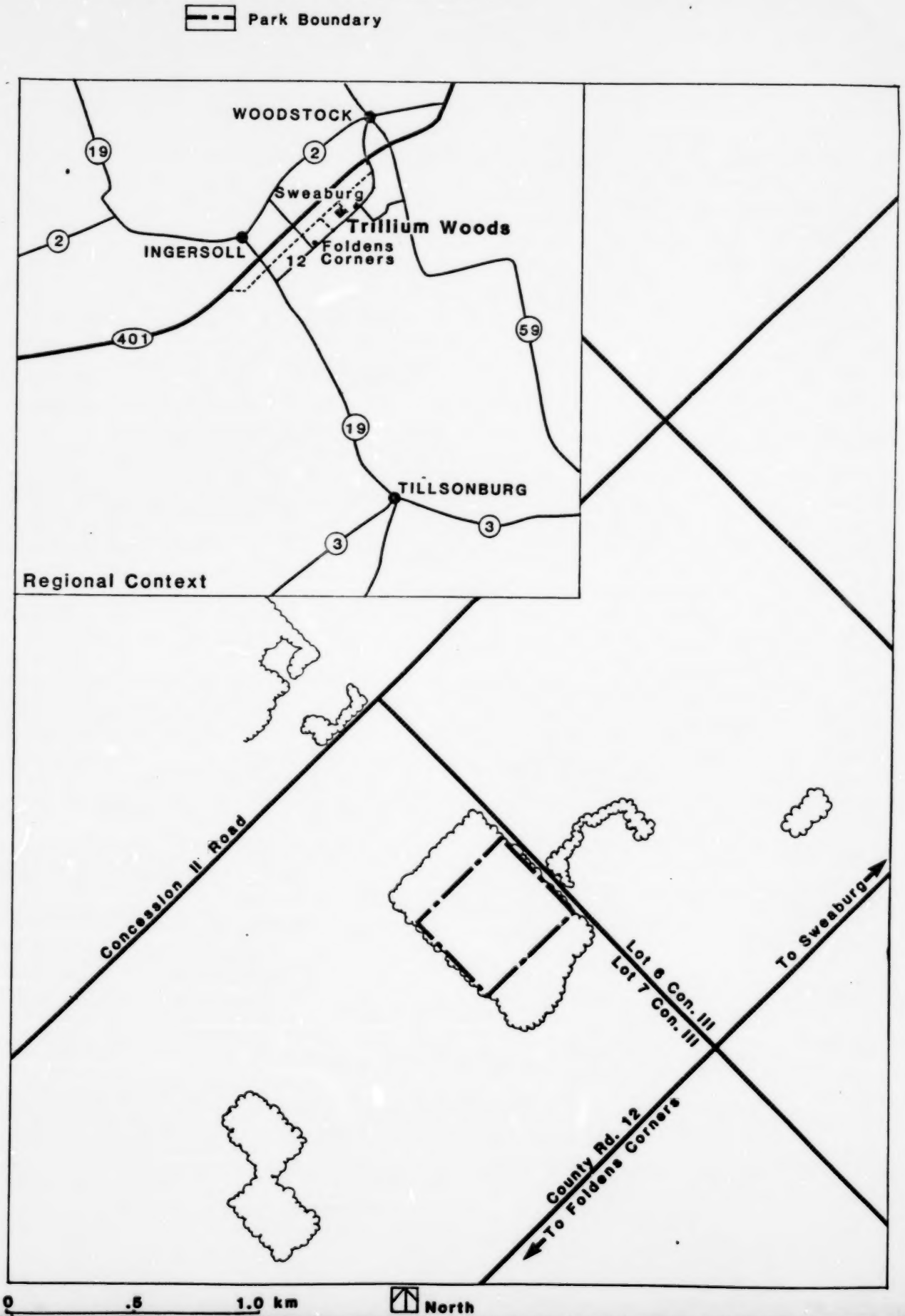
2.3.2 Heritage Appreciation

NATURE RESERVE PARKS ARE TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNSTRUCTURED INDIVIDUAL EXPLORATION AND APPRECIATION OF EARTH AND LIFE SCIENCE HERITAGE OF ONTARIO.

Trails through Trillium Woods Provincial Park will provide the opportunity for visitors to observe the life science features of the park.

Figure 1

Regional Context and Park Boundary



Information on the features will be provided on display panels, in publications and through personal contact.

2.4 Boundary

No expansion beyond the present boundaries is anticipated.

2.5 Zoning

All of Trillium Woods Provincial Park is zoned as nature reserve. No service facilities such as picnic tables and privies are proposed and adequate parking is available along the road side. Consequently, there is no need for an access zone. Within the park access is provided by the trail system.

3.0 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The park will be managed in accordance with the general planning and management policies for nature reserve class provincial parks. Specific directions are needed as follows.

Although the policies are presented in separate categories, all planning and management will recognize that the components are interrelated and that an integrated approach will be required for the park to achieve its objectives.

3.1 Vegetation

Vegetation management will be directed to the continuation of natural succession. Trees will be felled when there is a threat to human safety. Where a downed tree is over the trail, that portion of the tree obstructing the trail shall be removed.

If rare, threatened or endangered species are discovered, specific management techniques may need to be applied to ensure their continued existence.

Fires will be controlled by the local volunteer fire department. Insect populations and diseases threatening the natural values of the park will be controlled where feasible. Non-native plant species will not be deliberately introduced.

3.2 Wildlife

Hunting and trapping are not permitted.

Non-native wildlife species will not be introduced into the park.

4.0 CLIENT SERVICES

4.1 Visitor Services

Trillium Woods Provincial Park is particularly attractive for recreational activities such as walking and photography. In a relatively small area, visitors can see many of the vegetation species common to a deciduous forest.

Information concerning the park, its resources and management is available at the Aylmer District Office. A leaflet on the park is available at the district office as well.

Interested groups and clubs will be encouraged to provide other publications such as interpretive guides.

4.2 Research

Scientific research on the natural and cultural features of the park by qualified individuals will be encouraged. All research

programs will require approval of the Ministry of Natural Resources and will meet all requirements under applicable provincial and federal legislation.

Natural science research may include periodic inspections for rare, threatened and endangered species and monitoring the existing vegetation, especially the trillium population.

4.3 Marketing

Use of the park will be promoted through publications, personal contact and presentations to client groups.

5.0 DEVELOPMENT

The existing trails and fence will be maintained. Other development is not considered necessary at this time.

6.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A news release will be prepared notifying the public in the local area that a draft management plan has been prepared for the park. People interested in the future of the park will be able to obtain copies of the plan and discuss any issues by contacting or visiting the Aylmer District Office.

Copies of the draft plan will also be sent to the local municipalities, conservation authority, adjacent landowners, interested organizations, groups, and individuals.

7.0 SELECTED REFERENCES

Rowe, J.S. 1972. Forest Regions of Canada. Department of the Environment, Canadian Forestry Service.

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